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PARTIAL WATER SERVICE RESTORED TO FRISCO; CITY REMAINS UNDER EMERGENCY WATER RESTRICTIONS UNTIL WATER LINE REPAIRS ARE COMPLETE

(July 13, 2005) Following ongoing repairs, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) has partially restored water flow to the City of Frisco and surrounding communities.

At approximately 2:15 p.m. today the NTMWD confirmed it is providing Frisco with a limited supply of water until the main repairs can be completed and full operation can be restored. Frisco's water supply, while limited, continues to be quality, safe water and poses no health hazards.

With the temporary supply of water from NTMWD, the city of Frisco has an adequate supply of water to be able to meet the essential needs of residents' and businesses and to maintain flow in the event of fire.

Aside from car washes and some construction projects that involve water use, Frisco has not asked any businesses to close as a result of the water leak, at this time.

At approximately 6:30 a.m. today, the NTMWD alerted Frisco it discovered a leak in a major water supply line at its site plant in Wylie. The line supplies water to 15 communities, including Frisco.

Frisco reacted immediately by asking residents and businesses to stop ALL outdoor watering, as outlined in Stage Four of Frisco's Drought Contingency Plan.

This included a ban on watering landscapes, filling swimming pools, operating car washes and construction operations that involve water use.

Frisco posted the emergency water restriction information on its website and its government access channel. The same information was distributed through its e-mail news and information service, which has more than 600 subscribers.

At approximately 9:46 a.m., Frisco used its reverse 9-1-1 system to alert residents about the emergency water restrictions. More than 30,000 phone numbers received a voice message mandating residents stop all outdoor watering. The same message was also broadcast through Frisco's Outdoor Warning System, which includes 16 sirens and a public address message system.

City crews with the Public Works and Fire Departments traveled through city neighborhoods, searching for sprinkler systems in violation of the water restrictions and shut off the sprinkler systems.

Prior to this morning's leak, Frisco had implemented Stage Two of its Drought Contingency Plan, which restricted outdoor watering between the hours of 5 a.m. – 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Frisco officials credit the Frisco City Council for adopting water conservation and drought contingency plans earlier in the year, which helped prepare Frisco for today's emergency and allowed the City Manager to immediately enact the plan.

"Our council passed the water contingency plan on May 17 and it worked exactly like it's supposed to," said Gary Hartwell, Director of Public Works.